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The communist connection

M. STANTON EVANS

The untold story of this weekend's ballyhooed march for "jobs, peace and freedom" is the ominous spectacle of legitimate civic, church and labor leaders linking arms in common cause with obvious stooges of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party USA.

The heavy involvement in the march of U.S. communists, front groups and notorious conduits for Soviet disinformation is not a secret. It simply isn't being talked about. Their participation may be discovered readily by examining the official list of march endorsers. The communist press has been promoting the event for months, while the foreign policy issues being hammered — converging on the theme of weakened U.S. defenses — are a far cry from the "civil rights" concern alleged as the original motive for the rally.

The resulting amalgam is a major triumph for the hard-core Marxists and a bitter pill for liberal anti-communists in the union movement and elsewhere who in the past have tried to steer clear of Moscow's puppet groups and fellow travelers. This time around, Lane Kirkland's AFL-CIO will be seen as moving in common phalanx with the following — all of whom are officially listed as sponsors of the march:

- The U.S. Peace Council. American arm of a Soviet front group called the World Peace Council, bought and paid for by the Kremlin. A CIA report describes the WPC as "the Soviet Union's most important international front organization." Leadership positions in the U.S. Peace Council, according to the FBI, were given to two national leaders of the Communist Party USA — Michael Myerson and Sandra Pollock.

- Mobilization for Survival. A self-described "peace and environmental" group that openly lists the Communist Party USA on its masthead as an affiliate, along with the communist-controlled U.S. Peace Council, one other notorious communist front, and other groups that collaborate with the World Peace Council.

- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Described by the U.S. State Department as a "well-known international front" for the Soviet Union and its interests, it may be depicted more accurately as a collaborator in such interests. The WILPF has sent official representatives to the World

Peace Council board and is a participant in the communist-influenced Mobilization for Survival.

- Women Strike for Peace. Another collaborator with the World Peace Council, and with MFS, this group attained prominence in the 1960s as a sympathizer with the cause of North Vietnam. A congressional study found it to be "a pro-Hanoi organization" which "enjoyed the complete support of the Communist Party."

- Women for Racial and Economic Equality. A well-known front group for the Communist Party which collaborates with the MFS and a Soviet global front group called the Women's International Democratic Federation. The CIA informs us that "no non-communist women's group of any importance has ever joined" WIDE and that it has been run by identifiable communists since its inception.

- National Lawyers Guild. Cited years ago by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as "the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions," the NLG in recent years has evolved into a mixture of old and new leftists. It is a member of the Soviet front group, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, which is a faithful mouthpiece for Soviet policy.

- Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador. According to captured rebel documents, this group was formed with the aid of members of the Communist

Party USA under the supervision of Farid Handal, brother of the general secretary of the Salvadoran Communist Party, during a trip to the United States. According to the FBI, CISPES has been involved in circulating a forged "dissent paper" on El Salvador also being promoted by the Soviets.

- Assorted other front groups, including the National Alliance Against Racial and Political Repression, the Labor Research Association, and the All People's Congress, a front for the pro-Soviet Workers World Party.

The positioning of pro-communist elements in what is

advertised as a non-communist event thus approaches that attained last year in the June 12 disarmament rally at the United Nations. Thanks to the FBI, we know that rally was effectively manipulated by the Communist Party and U.S. Peace Council to serve the objectives of the Kremlin — focusing on U.S. instead of Soviet weapons. Significantly, the call for this weekend's rally specifically endorses and praises that event, while urging a nuclear freeze, massive cuts in U.S. defense spending, and a cutoff of U.S. assistance to El Salvador.

Question: How did the good folks from the AFL-CIO and other respectable organizations let themselves get hooked up with such people, in such a disreputable cause?